

The Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President

CONTACTS: Jared Touchin, Communications Director (928) 274-4275 Crystalyne Curley, Sr. Public Information Officer (928) 274-2758

nnopvp.communications@gmail.com

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New Lukachukai Community School facilities scheduled for completion in June 2022

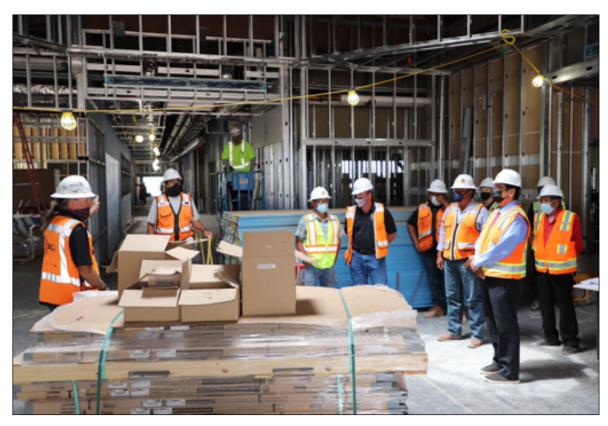


PHOTO: Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer tour the Lukachukai Community School classrooms in Lukachukai, Ariz. on Aug. 18, 2021.

LUKACHUKAI, Ariz. – On Wednesday, Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer toured the construction site for the new Lukachukai Community School that will house new classrooms for grades K-8, dormitory, staff housing, gymnasium, bus and fire truck facility, water storage facility, and several sports fields in the community of Lukachukai, Ariz.

Nez FCI, a Navajo-owned construction company, began constructing the new facilities in January 2020 and hired over 400 workers – 90-percent of which are members of the Navajo Nation. Nez FCI expects to complete construction in June 2022. The former school facility accommodated close to 300 students, but the new campus will be able to accommodate about 400 students.

"This is an amazing development for the Lukachukai community, the students, teachers, and the entire region. Former and current school board members and local leaders fought hard for years to have these new facilities funded and constructed through the BIE. With the construction phase in progress, the Nez FCI construction company was also able to bring home many of our skilled Navajo tradesmen who would otherwise be working in other states. This is certainly providing many benefits for our Navajo people and it is a part of building our Nation. We congratulate the Lukachukai community, the school board, Council Delegate Carl Slater, and many others," said President Nez.

The new school campus will also have a bus and firetruck facility to help with immediate repairs and maintenance for school buses and to help with emergency response situations. 19 staff housing units are also being constructed near the school to help retain more school teachers and other staff members.

"We are very pleased to witness the progress of the community school's construction during today's visit. This project brings hope and a greater sense of pride for Lukachukai and the surrounding communities, particularly in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. As we continue to emerge from the pandemic stronger and more resilient, we look to this development to also strengthen the quality of education for our students. We must think of education as the means of developing our greatest abilities. There is a greater hope and



PHOTO: Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer with Nez FCI construction workers at the Lukachukai Community School site in Lukachukai, Ariz. on Aug. 18, 2021.

dream that is being fulfilled for the benefit of everyone with this project. We look forward to much more development through collaborations and working together," said Vice President Lizer.

Marvin Nez, the majority owner of Nez FCI, stated, "As leaders, entrepreneurs, and educators for the Navajo Nation, we have one mission. Investment in our Navajo children today will pay dividends tomorrow."

The Nez-Lizer Administration thanks the Lukachukai Community School Board, Lukachukai Chapter officials, Bureau of Indian Education, and many others who continue to support the project, which is scheduled to be completed in June 2022.

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